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Senator Symington reportedly asked Secretary if he thought India could support this "gigantic" military establishment without US economic aid: Secretary replied, "I think that in the situation we could not suppose that he (I'r. Mehru) would substantially reduce his military establishment on economic grounds." Secretary commented further that if US did not provide aid to India, then India would not be able to move forward as rapidly with economic development. Senator Symington said he understood only 15 per cent of India's forces were deployed on border against China, and India had obtained arms from number of countries. Secretary said India, of course, had bought its military equipment internationally, and some had been obtained in US. Secretary quoted as stating that between 1956 and 1961, India's military budget fell from 20 per cent to 15 per cent of total Government outlay, thus enabling country to devote more to economic development; "I think it is also correct to say that Pakistan has dropped its military expenditure for the same purpose.

Senator Symington reportedly declared Pakistan was faced right on its own borders with three "enemies," which he identified as Communist China, Afghanistan and India; said, "So they have a real problem of defending themselves, which I don't think is true of the Indians." Secretary answered that US had given strong support to regional members of CENTO, to which Pakistan belongs, and US believed every effort should be made to work out amicable relations in area; if objective achieved, only security questions would be those affecting these countries from the north.

At another point, Senator Symington quoted as stating that Krishna Menon was "continually attacking the United States;" anid laughter, Senator Symington asked Secretary: "Do you feel that Mr. Nehru attacked Goa in order to be sure that he got Mr. Menon back as his Defense Minister, or do you think that was just coincidence?" Secretary reportedly replied, "No, I do not myself believe that there was that connotation in the Goa situation. We were very much opposed to it and took a strong position in the United Mations."

April 7 Statesman carried same Reuters report.

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